

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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- 25X11. The most active areas of resistance since the Communists came into power in Albania have been in Mirdite and Kruje. Although there are still some resistance groups, most of them are newer elements since the older members of 1949-50 have either been liquidated or have fled to Yugoslavia.
2. The Pursuit Division of the Sigurimi has its operational headquarters as well as its barracks and animal transport at Shpal in Mirdite. There are detached companies distributed throughout Mirdite as well as in other districts of Albania. The Division strength in Mirdite is estimated to be about 1,000.
3. One of the chief difficulties of the resistance groups is the food supply since food is always difficult to find even for the local population. One member of such a group stated that on one occasion he had to visit as many as fifteen houses before he could find enough bread to spare. Another difficulty is the question of shelter. In the summer members of the resistance groups may find shelter in the mountains if they are lucky; however, in the winter they must seek shelter in houses. During both periods houses and caves in the mountains are systematically checked by the Sigurimi.
4. Another means of enforcement used by the Sigurimi are informants. Even in Mirdite where clan loyalty is very strong, they are still able to find informants. The Sigurimi work on the principal that one of every five persons must be an informant and they make every effort to reach that goal. The informants are obtained either among the very young who are forced into this work by fear, among prisoners who have been tortured into signing an agreement to work for the Sigurimi, or among others who have been intimidated by threats of liquidation either to themselves or their families.

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